

Torrance, California  
January 14, 1941

MINUTES OF A REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, January 14, 1941 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being  
Councilmen: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. Absent:  
Councilmen: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held December 28, 1940 be approved as written. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the Richfield Oil Corporation, advising that no pipe lines were laid, removed or abandoned by said company under City of Torrance Franchise Ordinance No. 92 from July 1 to December 31, 1940.

Two communications were read from Union Oil Company of California, advising that no pipe lines or conduits were constructed by said company under Franchise Ordinances Nos. 1501 and 1010 during the six months' period ending December 31, 1941.

A communication was read from the General Petroleum Corporation of California, advising that no pipe lines were laid by said company under Franchise Ordinance No. 781 during the six months' period ending December 31, 1941.

Matters of record.

A communication was read from REMCO, (Real Estate Management Company) 1405 Sartori Avenue, Torrance, urging the City of Torrance to purchase the two lots adjoining the City Hall on El Prado Street.

Councilman Babcock moved that the matter be referred to the City Council as a committee for investigation. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Phillip Mosqueda, 1028 Watson Avenue, Wilmington, requesting use of the Civic Auditorium for six Saturday night dances, to be held every third Saturday beginning February 15, 1941.

Councilman Powell moved that the matter be referred to the Building Committee for investigation. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, requesting the purchase by the City of six baseball bats for use by the Torrance Fire Department.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from the Quandt Pumping Station, requesting that the bill presented by Quandt Pumping Station in the amount of \$85.86 for work done at the park located at Walnut Street and Hawthorne Boulevard in Welteria be settled as soon as possible. It was stated in the communication that the original bill for this work had been returned by the City Clerk to the Quandt Pumping Station, with the statement that no record could be found authorizing said work. Mr. Quandt stated that the work had been ordered by Mr. Gascoigne, Street Superintendent, which, in his estimation, was sufficient authorization.

Councilman Hitchcock stated that it was the understanding that a one inch line would be laid to serve the park, and that Quandt Pumping Station had put in a four inch main. The difference in the size main desired and the size furnished is the controversial point in the matter, he said.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the whole City Council should investigate the matter further before action is taken regarding payment of the bill. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from the Van de Kamp's Holland Dutch Bakers, Inc., requesting a variance of the building code in Fire Zone No. 1 to allow them to move onto a certain location in said fire zone one of their windmill bakery shops. They advised that they had been granted such a variance to building codes in a number of cities, mentioning a few.

Engineer Jain gave a detailed written report on this matter, in which he stated that he had contacted the several cities mentioned and had been informed that no variance in the building codes in No. 1 Fire Zones had been granted. He offered no recommendation.

Mr. Lucas of the Van de Kamp's Bakers made a few remarks pertinent to the subject and advised that the ground lease the company is negotiating for is a five year lease. Upon being asked how much time could be allowed for consideration of this matter, Mr. Lucas advised that a certain oil company is constructing a service station at the location in Long Beach where the windmill it is proposed to move here now stands, and have set January 15, 1941 as the final date for moving said building.

Councilman Babcock moved that the request of Van de Kamp's Holland Dutch Bakers, Inc. for a variance of the building code in Fire Zone No. 1 be granted to allow said company to move their building onto the location desired. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Powell: ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from O. D. Butterfield, City Electrician, requesting an appropriation of not to exceed \$120.00 for purchase and installation of one Semi-business King Pole and fittings at 220th Street and Arlington Avenue.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1418

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING SETTLEMENT  
COVERING LIQUIDATION OF INDEBTEDNESS OF  
1915 ACT DISTRICTS.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1418 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read an Application of Southern California Gas Company for a gas franchise pursuant to the provisions of the Franchise Act of 1937.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1419

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTEN-  
TION TO GRANT THE GAS FRANCHISE  
APPLIED FOR BY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
GAS COMPANY.

Clerk Bartlett also read in full a notice of a meeting which it is required to be published in the newspaper not less than twenty days or more than sixty days before said meeting, at which time any one so desiring may object to granting of the franchise applied for by the Southern California Gas Company.

Councilman Babcock moved that Resolution No. 1419 be adopted.

Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

In connection with the application of Alphonso Curtis, 1588 East Vernon, Los Angeles, for permit to operate a shoe shine parlor in the City of Torrance, Engineer Jain reported he had communicated with Mr. Curtis, advising that it would be necessary to comply with the building code in certain respects, and suggesting that if it is not intended to erect a building, space be rented in a building within a certain zone. To date, Mr. Jain said, no reply has been received.

Engineer Jain said plans are being formulated on subdivision requirements, more information to be furnished at a later date.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$10.40, plus sales tax, be made for 1 pedestrian reflectorized sign for use on Carson Street at Andreo Avenue. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$9.40, plus sales tax, be made for 1 boulevard stop sign to be placed on Andreo Avenue at Carson Street. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$49.80 be made for 4 reflectorized traffic signs "Slippery when Wet" for use as follows: Two on Arlington Avenue at Carson Street and 220th Street and two on Arlington Avenue at Santa Fe Street and Narbonne Avenue. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Powell reported that the safety traffic sign on Prairie Avenue at 190th Street is down and asked that it be placed back in position. Referred to the Street Department.

Councilman Murray moved that Fire Commissioner Powell and Fire Chief McMaster be authorized to attend the Fire Chiefs' Convention at Catalina Island January 18 and 19, 1941, expenses paid. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$169.00 be made for repairs to Abalone Avenue from 220th Street to Plaza del Amo Street. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$127.80 be made for fertilizer for parks. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to write to Redondo Beach City Council advising them of the plan of

the City of Torrance to construct shoulders on Hawthorne Avenue, from Torrance Boulevard to Redondo Beach Boulevard, and to ask their cooperation in (1) Securing the additional twenty (20) feet widening strip within Redondo City limits from 182nd Street to Redondo Beach Boulevard and (2) Allocating  $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent Gas Tax for State Highways to aid in constructing of shoulders within Redondo portion. Also to advise Redondo Beach City Engineer of estimated cost of improvements contemplated. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Engineer Jain made a few remarks regarding this matter, stating that Mr. Plotzke, Right of Way man, is at the present time working toward acquirement of right of way on Hawthorne Avenue, having acquired approximately 80% of the parcels to date. Mr. Jain said that condemnation proceedings have been prepared for the remaining ones who are holding out. He said that north of 182nd Street the west half of Hawthorne Avenue lies within the City of Redondo Beach. The Redondo Beach City Engineer, upon being contacted by Mr. Jain, suggested that the Redondo Beach City Council be contacted and asked to budget a certain amount of their  $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent gas tax funds to acquire the right of way lying within their city, and also to budget an amount sufficient to construct shoulders on the west side of Hawthorne Avenue north of 182nd Street. Mr. Jain pointed out the necessity of obtaining the right of way before the improvement is made. The incentive to grant the right of way would, naturally, be removed if the improvement were made first.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Engineer be authorized to write to the State Right of Way Agent advising of plan to construct shoulders on Hawthorne Avenue from Torrance Boulevard to Redondo Beach Boulevard, and request the State to take steps to secure necessary 20 foot and 25 foot widening strip on west side before improvement is made - also to request assistance in the way of  $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent Gas Tax funds to aid in constructing said shoulders. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Attorney be authorized to prepare a Resolution of Condemnation for the remaining unsecured parcels of land on Hawthorne Avenue between Redondo Beach Boulevard on the north and Torrance Boulevard on the south. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$172.90 be made to repair and repaint venetian blinds at the Library building. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$140.00 be made for renewal of equipment at the auditorium. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$137.50 be made for installation of 19 meters and connections for the Vista Highlands Sewer Project. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$166.35 be made for 50 3/4" goosenecks for the Water Department. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$10.88 be made for 24 1" meter connections for the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Engineer Jain reported he had investigated the request of Star Brick and Tile Company for permit to operate a dump between 174th and 178th Streets in the City of Torrance. He said some dumping had already been done at the location. He added that he was not favorably impressed with the idea.

Councilman Hitchcock suggested that the entire Council investigate the matter before taking action. Friday, January 17, 1941 at 4:30 P.M. was agreed upon as a suitable time to inspect the premises desired for a dump ground.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Charles F. Kendall, 212 Paseo De Las Delicias, Hollywood Riviera, representing the Hollywood Riviera section, asked what procedure is necessary to obtain street lights in the district. He stated that a number of residences had been burglarized recently and that the need for lights is quite apparent.


In the ensuing discussion, different types of lights were mentioned, it being revealed that the Southern California Edison Co., Ltd. will install overhead lights at their own expense, whereas if ornamental lights are desired, it would be necessary to form an assessment district. Mr. Kendall and Mr. J.P. Matthews, 664 Calle Miramar, advised that any type of lights would be acceptable, if not unsightly. Councilman Hitchcock suggested that the matter be referred to Mr. Butterfield, City Electrician, for investigation and report, and offered the further suggestion that officials of the Edison Company and representatives of the Hollywood Riviera district meet with Mr. Butterfield for discussion of the matter. This suggestion was approved by Mr. Kendall and Mr. Matthews.

Councilman Hitchcock moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:42 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Babcock, the meeting adjourned.

  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

APPROVED:

  
Mayor of the City of Torrance